

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /022 W

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O 221510Z JAN 76 ZFF4

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTO 1061

FOR S/PRS

PASS NSC AND WHITE HOUSE FOR SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) PFOR, UR

SUBJ: IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE AT SPASO HOUSE

FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS AN EXCHANGE BETWEEN
SECRETARY KISSINGER AND REPORTERS UPON HIS ARRIVAL AT
SPASO HOUSE FOR A LUNCHEON JANUARY 22, 1415 HOURS

BEGIN TEXT

Q: MR. SECRETARY, COULD YOU GIVE US YOUR IMPRESSION OF
THE NEGOTIATIONS AS THEY NOW STAND?

A: I THINK BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN VERY SERIOUS; WE HAVE
MADE SOME SUGGESTIONS. THE SOVIETS HAVE MADE SOME COUNTER
PROPOSALS AND WE HAVE RESPONDED.

Q: HAVE YOU ANY FEELINGS, MR. SECRETARY, ABOUT WHAT THE
OUTCOME OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE?

A: I WOULDN'T WANT TO SPECULATE. WE HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE
SOVIET RESPONSE AND THEN WE HAVE TO STUDY IT CAREFULLY.

Q: DO YOU FEEL AT THIS PARTICULAR POINT THAT THESE
NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT GO EITHER WAY, TOWARD SUCCESS OR POSSIBLY
EVEN TOWARD FAILURE?

A: WELL, AS I HAVE INDICATED THERE ARE MANY POSSIBILITIES.
WE COULD MAKE SOME PROGRESS -- WE COULD STALEMENT. WE
WILL DO WHAT WE BELIEVE IS IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST. BUT
I THINK SO FAR THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN VERY SERIOUS.

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WITH BOTH SIDES MAKING RESPONSIBLE PROPOSALS AND NARROWING

THE GAP.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, DO YOU THINK THAT IF THE NEGOTIATIONS DO DEVELOP PROBLEMS YOU MAY REVISE YOUR OWN SCHEDULE AND REMAIN IN MOSCOW ANOTHER DAY OR TWO OR WILL YOU IN FACT LEAVE ON FRIDAY, THAT IS TOMORROW?

A: THERE IS A MEETING OF THE NATO COUNCIL SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW AFTERNOON TO WHICH MANY FOREIGN MINISTERS HAVE INDICATED THEY WOULD COME. SO IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME TO CHANGE MY SCHEDULE.

Q: COULD YOU RETURN TO MOSCOW FROM BRUSSELS, SIR?

A: WELL, I WOULD HAVE TO SEE WHAT DEVELOPS. NEXT WEEK WE ARE EXPECTING PRIME MINISTER RABIN IN THE U.S. I THINK THAT WE ARE ON A COURSE IN WHICH WE CAN TAKE THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE TO WASHINGTON AND SEE WHERE WE GO FROM THERE.

Q: WELL, HOW WOULD YOU THINK THAT WOULD BE INTERPRETED THEN IF YOU DID NOT HAVE THE FULL AGREEMENT AND ONLY PROGRESS?

A: I HAVE NEVER SAID THERE WOULD BE A FULL AGREEMENT WHILE I'M HERE. WE ARE NOT ON ANY PARTICULAR SCHEDULE. OUR SCHEDULE IS WHAT IS NEEDED FOR PEACE OF THE WORLD. WE WILL HAVE TO WORK VERY SERIOUSLY. WE HAVE NEVER SAID WE WOULD COMPLETE IT HERE.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, YOU LIKE NUMBERS AND YOU OFTEN DO PERCENTAGES ON WHAT THE OUTCOME OF CERTAIN NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE. WILL YOU TAKE A RISK ON THIS ONE?

A: I DON'T WANT TO MAKE ANY INDICATION -- GIVE ANY INDICATION. WE HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS AND THE QUESTION IS HOW MUCH MORE CAN BE MADE WHILE I'M HERE. SOME PROGRESS HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE.

THANK YOU, MR. SECRETARY END TEXT
KISSINGER

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